

St. Therese

Social Outreach Fellowship Committee

Minutes of February 10, 2011 Meeting

Members present: Beverly Christopherson, Shirley Donnelly, Chuck Edwards, Louise Johnson, Jean Rasmussen, Margie Smotherman, Sue Williams.
Father David joined the meeting later.

Opening Prayer: Jean Rasmussen

Mission and Goals of SOFC: Louise Johnson

1. Julie Derner will set a meeting for sometime in March with the mentors of the **Welcome Committee**. There has been one new membership to St. Therese in 2011. A Welcome Dinner for new parishioners is scheduled on Saturday, March 5 after the 4:00 Mass.
2. There was no news reported from the **Respect Life** Committee.
3. It has been decided to gift the Religious Ed. Teachers with a hand-made greeting card featuring a photo of their class as a **Teacher Appreciation** gift to be given in the spring when the semester ends.
4. **Parish nurse**, Beverly Christopherson, presented a written report outlining the End of Life Seminar she has organized. It will be held on October, 22, 2011 at St. Therese beginning at 8:30.
 - i Father David will present "The Catholic Perspective on Suffering , Dying and Death."
 - ii Travis and Kelly Benson will cover "What the Church teaches about life, the end of life and medical treatments and decision making."
 - iii A representative from Dougherty Hospice House will speak on "What is hospice care? What are the requirements to receive hospice care,? Cost of hospice care and more."
 - iv Doug Houseman from Chapel Hill Funeral Home and Crematory will discuss "Planning a funeral, cremation, and more."

The parish nurse will make Care Notes available during the Lenten season for the parish.

The parish nurse is also planning a Cultural Diversity Fair to be held at St. Lambert's School on Thursday, February 24, 2011. The event will begin at 12:30 and end at 3:00. There will be booths, each booth displaying a different culture that is represented at St. Lambert's School. Door prizes will be awarded as well.

5. Jean Rasmussen reported that one gentleman has been added to the list of communicants who are homebound. Two communicants have been included in the **Eucharistic Outreach** from the Washington Crossing location.
6. Rasmussen also reported that one baptismal blanket has been gifted from the **Prayer Shawl** group. Shirley Donnelly read a Thank You from a grateful recipient of a prayer shawl. The knitters often get favorable responses from those who receive the shawls.

7. **Social Ministry** Sue Williams discussed the conversation she had with a representative from Community Outreach. Community Outreach is seeking a mentor/s to work with those who are homeless or in danger of losing their home/livelihood. There would be a training session of 3-4 hours and a commitment of time from the mentor for about 10 months.
8. Shirley Donnelly reported the upcoming events planned by the **Parish Activity Leaders**. The Mexican Fiesta was held on Saturday, February 12. PALs will plan an Easter Egg event. The plastic Easter eggs will include an Easter message from Father David and candy. They will have Saturday Night Live on April 30. It may feature an appetizer competition. PALs plans and serves the Baccalaureate Brunch in May also.
9. Margie Smotherman presented a power point hard copy of the research she's done on the **Elizabeth Ministry**. Elizabeth Ministry is an international movement that has as its core values: respect all life, cherish children, encourage families, enrich marriages and build community. EM had formerly been active at St. Therese. Margie with B. Christopherson, parish nurse, have had discussions to combine efforts to re-ignite the movement at St. Therese Parish. It was decided the former members of EM would be contacted and invited back, if they have an interest. Perhaps a meeting of orientation will be scheduled after Easter to gauge the amount of interest and commitment.
10. The Social Outreach Fellowship Committee will act as **Greeters at Mass** on the weekend of March 12-13. This is the effort of the committee to showcase all the standing committees who are at work in the parish and hopefully draw interest for increased involvement by members of the parish.
11. Social Outreach Fellowship Committee will help with the **sale of cookie dough** on the weekends of February 26-27 and again on March 5-6.
12. Ted and Pat Feller have agreed to consider heading up the **St. Therese Church Pictorial** scheduled to take place this year at St. Therese.

The meeting closed with a prayer led by Jean Rasmussen.